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PATENT

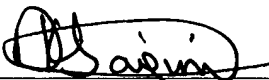
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant: TURRINI, Alberto Examiner: to be assigned
Serial No. 10/541,075 Group Art Unit: 3743
Filed: June 29, 2005 Docket No. 58009-019900/US
Title: ***ARTICULATED JOINT FOR KNEE BRACE***
Customer No.: 33717

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

Date of Mailing: February 6, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated, and addressed to MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.


Name: Diana Sagini

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [37 C.F.R. § 1.56]

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-SB-08 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of any cited foreign documents. Copies of the U.S. references are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;

- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) above of this section, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. The fee for filing an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is \$180.00.

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

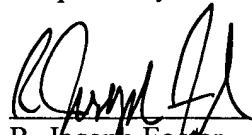
- ☐ b. A petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement; and
- ☐ c. The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Applicant would appreciate the examiner initialing and signing a copy of attached Form PTO-SB-08 indicating that he or she considered the information and made the information of record.

If the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the PTO determines that an extension or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

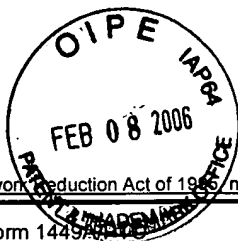
Respectfully submitted,



R. Joseph Foster
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Date: February 6, 2006

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A-01 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/541,075
				Filing Date	June 29, 2005
				First Named Inventor	TURRINI, Alberto
				Art Unit	3743
				Examiner Name	to be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	58009-019900/US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,372,298	02-08-1983	Lerman	
		6,551,264	04-22-2003	Cawley, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number 4 Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 846 895	08-18-1952	Karl Römer		
		WO 93/22992	11-25-1993	SINGER, Samuel, et al.		

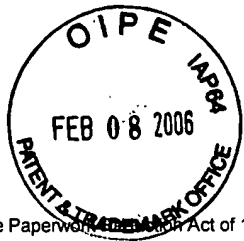
Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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				Examiner Name	to be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	58009-019900/US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/IT 2004/000580 Dated 03-16-2005, 2 page(s)	

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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